



Media Advisory

#04-001

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California Department of Transportation
District 2, Redding
Brian Crane, District Director

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<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winter Road Conditions Update for January 1, 2004

Redding - The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in Redding has re-opened Interstate 5 to northbound and southbound traffic after a seven-hour closure due to severe winter weather conditions. The roadway is now open to all vehicles from Redding to the Oregon State border. At this time there are no chains restrictions but it is recommended that travelers carry chains and watch for changing weather and snow removal equipment.

In other areas of the District, State Route (SR) 3 is closed from Yreka to Scott Mountain, SR 89 is closed from the junction of SR 299 north of Burney north west to McCloud and State Route 395 is closed from the junction of SR 299 north of Alturas to the Oregon border due to high winds and drifting snow.

Weather in Northern California is very unpredictable and changes rapidly. If there is a prediction of severe winter weather conditions, we suggest motorists stay off the roadways. If travel is necessary make sure your vehicle is in sound condition. Start your trip with a full tank of gas and make sure your cell phone battery is fully charged. Inform others of your trip plans and when you are expected to arrive at your destination. Take a winter storm kit along with you which should include such items as tire chains, booster cables, flashlight, extra batteries, shovel, a bag of sand or cat litter, blankets and extra clothing, food, water, a first aid kit, matches or anything else that would help you survive in case you become stranded.

For updates on road conditions, please refer to the Caltrans web site www.dot.ca.gov/dist2 then click on Traveler Information or call the road conditions phone at 1-800-427-7623. For Oregon information refer to www.tripcheck.com or phone 511 from within Oregon or 503-588-2941 from outside the state.

For more information please contact Michael Mayor at 530-225-3071, or page the Public Information Office at 530-255-3485.

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